

ABSTRACT

WA-I-202

18th Century

Log House, Leitersburg Pike

Leitersburg Vicinity

private

This two story log house is significant as an example of log construction, an important type of building in Western Maryland. Also worthy of note is the belief among historians that part of this house was that built by Jacob Leiter between 1762 and 1764. The town of Leitersburg was named for this family who owned the land on which it is situated.

## MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

WA-I-202  
District 9  
Map 26  
Parcel 131  
2201915204

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Log House, Leitersburg Pike

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Leitersburg By-pass

CITY, TOWN

Leitersburg

VICINITY OF

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Washington

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☐ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED☐ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☐ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☒ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ COMMERCIAL☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ GOVERNMENT☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ MILITARY☐ MUSEUM☐ PARK☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ RELIGIOUS☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Riley Bitner

Telephone #:

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Route # 2

CITY, TOWN

Smithsburg

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 21740

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Washington County Court House

Liber #: 610

Folio #: 97

STREET &amp; NUMBER

West Washington Street

CITY, TOWN

Hagerstown

STATE

Maryland 21740

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED < 50%	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED      DATE _____
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

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DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This house is located north of Maryland Route 60, the Leitersburg Pike, at the west end of the Leitersburg by-pass. It is situated on sloping ground and faces south.

The dwelling is a two story, three bay log structure set on foundations which have been buffered with concrete. Attached to the west gable end of the building is a two story, two bay wing which also appears to be of log construction. A small addition extends to the rear or north. The entire building is sheathed with composition siding. The front elevation of the main or east section is protected by a broad double porch included under the main roof span. The porch is supported by square posts. The upper level is enclosed by a balustrade with diagonally and vertically set square balusters.

Openings in this eastern portion of the house appear to be aligned with each other in the walls. Windows which are relatively small in size have two over two pane double hung sashes, presumably replacements of the originals. Wood facing has been added to the window frames.

The main entrance is located in the western bay of the east section of the front elevation. The door way is elaborate among those in Washington County's log dwellings. The entrance is broad, including a door flanked by four pane side lights. There is no transom. A second entrance in the front elevation of the main section is located in the center bay of the second story. An interior door frame that was observed was massive with plain quarter round trim.

The roof of the entire structure is covered with corrugated sheet metal. Plain boxing finishes the eaves. An exterior flue of concrete block is located at the east gable end and an inside end chimney of brick is located at the west gable end of the addition.

The building is in fair to good condition and stands on a tract containing 2.94 acres.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

<b>PERIOD</b>		<b>AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW</b>			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

SPECIFIC DATES

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This two story log house is significant as an example of log construction, an important type of building in Western Maryland. Also worthy of note is the belief among historians that part of this house was that built by Jacob Leiter between 1762 and 1764. The town of Leitersburg was named for this family who owned the land on which it is situated.

Further examination of this house is required before an assessment of its age can be made. The treatment of the main entrance is of a type associated with the second quarter of the 19th century in Washington County. An interior door frame that was seen in the east section was, however, more typical of the 18th century.

and records describe this property as being part of that which was conveyed by Bernard . Leight, trustee for the estate of Peter Ripp, to George Poe on December 30, 1826. It was later acquired by Joseph Barkdoll and remained in the Barkdoll family until 1913 (116/636, 141/276). It has since changed hands numerous times (153/205, 236/210, 248/342, 324/409, 367/653, 486/563). Although the property now contains less than 3 acres it was part of a tract, the "Resurvey on Poe's Part of Well Taught." In 1762 Jacob Leiter purchased 362 acres of this grant from George Poe. He subsequently acquired the entire tract of 1294 acres which included the site of Leitersburg. The town was laid out in 1815 by Andrew Leiter, grandson of the original settler, Jacob Leiter.

According to a former owner of the house, a blacksmith's shop is said to have been operated on the property.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Bell, Herbert C., History of Leitersburg District. Leitersburg, Md: Herbert C. Bell, 1908.  
 Washington County Land Records.  
 Williams, T.J.C., History of Washington County. Hagerstown, Md: Mail Publishing Company, 1906.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY 2.94 acres

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

**Paula Stoner Dickey, Consultant**

ORGANIZATION

**Washington County Historical Sites Survey**

DATE

**September 1976**

STREET & NUMBER

**County Office Building, 33 West Washington Street**

TELEPHONE

**791-3065**

CITY OR TOWN

**Hagerstown**

STATE

**Maryland 21740**

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
 The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
 Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
 (301) 267-1438

3

WA-I-202

FRANKLIN COUNTY  
WASHINGTON COUNTY

PENNSYLVANIA  
MARYLAND

ROCKY FORGE

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

21740

Millers

WA-I-202  
ADC of Alexandria, Inc., 1984

LEITERSBURG

BLUEGRASS ESTATES

Leitersburg Co 9

BOWMANS MILL

WINDING CREEK SOUTH

Brook Lane  
Farm Hospital

ORCHARD ESTATES

60

60

805

418

805

62

D

E

F

G

H

J

K

A

B

CREEK

ANTIETAM

Little

Antietam

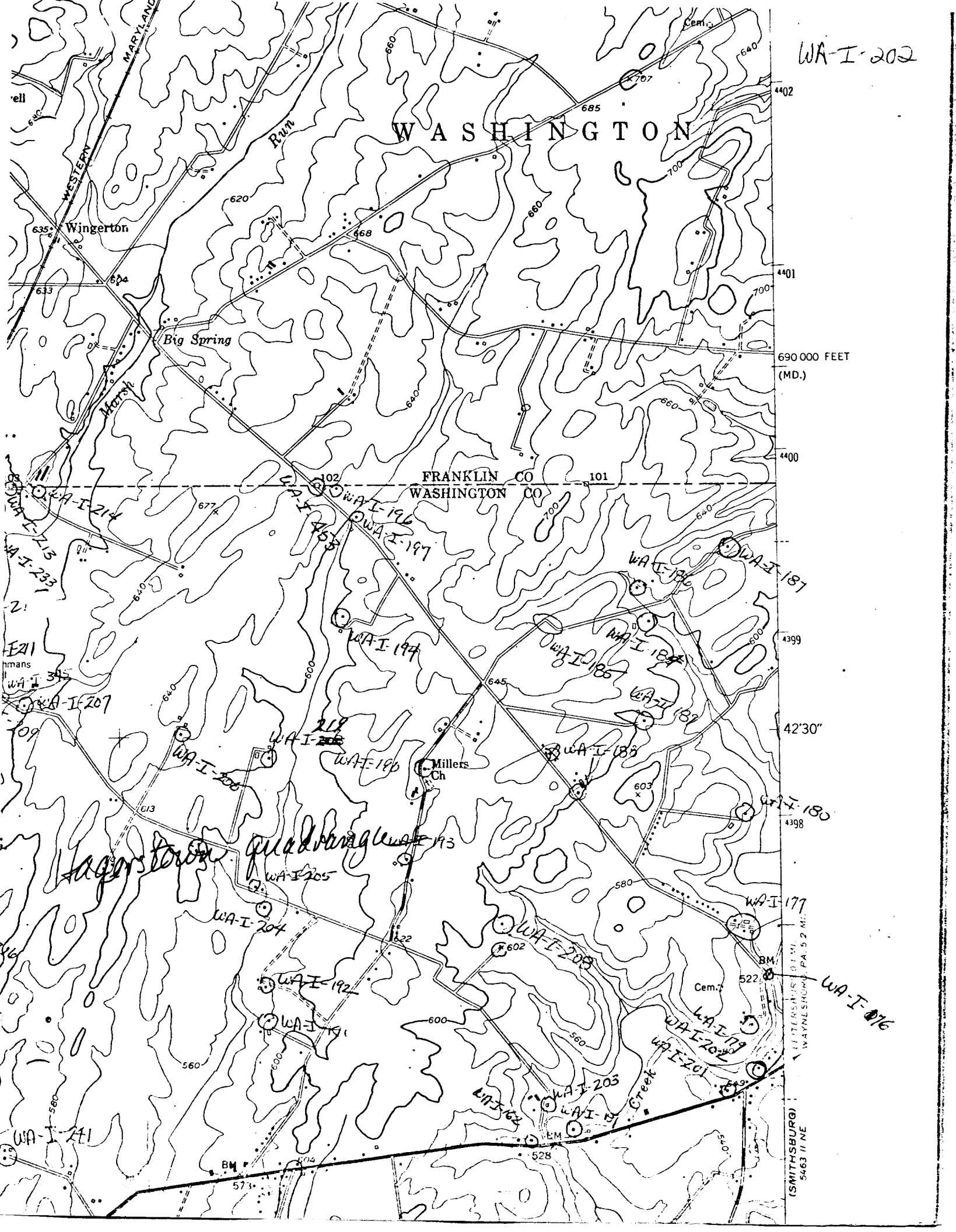
Little

DURBERRY

Grove

Creek

WA-I-202







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CONSULTANT, WASHINGTON CO  
HISTORICAL SITES SURVEY



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